



Big Sky Libraries

Number 62 July/August, 1999

Montana State Library [MSL]

Inside:

A Word from Our State Librarian
Karen's Schedule
1999 Directory Changes
MSL's Fall Workshop
Strege Appointed to SummitNet
Executive Council
MSL Materials
Montana Libraries
Represented in Washington
MSL at MLA
Library Certification Program
ILL Reminder
Looking Ahead-MLN in Year 2002
MSL Workshop Registration
Notes from MSL
Spotlight: Dixie Carlson, Inter-
library Loan Technician

Governor Racicot Unveils Gates Gift

Governor Racicot announced the Montana public libraries would receive approximately \$1 million in grants from the Gates Learning Foundation to purchase computers, Internet access, and technical training. Separately, the Microsoft Corporation will donate software of an estimated value of \$600,000. Richard Akeroyd, executive director of the Gates Library Initiative, presented the award to the Governor and Mike Schulz, Library Commission Chair, during a community ceremony on June 9 at Helena's Lewis and Clark Public Library.

Of the 110 public libraries in Montana, those serving a population with 10 percent or more of the community living in poverty are eligible to receive Foundation grants. Grant writing workshops will begin in November with receipt of funding estimated to start in spring 2000.

The State Library will work with the Gates Library Initiative to implement this exciting program in Montana. For more information please call Karen Strege, State Librarian, at 406-444-3115.

Calendar

Online calendar: msl.state.mt.us/calendar.html

August 6 — Law Revision Task Force Meeting, Helena.

August 18 — Montana State Library Commission Meeting, Sheridan Public Library.

September 9 — Networking Task Force Meeting, Helena.

September 10 — Public Library Standards Rules Hearing, 9 a.m.-11 a.m., Helena.

September 24-25 — Montana State Library Fall Workshop, Lewistown.

October 13 — Montana State Library Commission Meeting, Helena.

BCR Membership for Montana Libraries

MSL has purchased a state membership from BCR (Bibliographical Center for Research) in Colorado. This membership provides all Montana libraries BCR membership privileges at no cost to them. BCR can save your library money by providing affordable quality materials and services. BCR benefits:

1. Acting as buying group, it provides discounts on library products such as:
 - a. Training
 - b. Reference database services
 - c. Online encyclopedias including Britannica and Grolier's
 - d. Document delivery services
 - e. Videos from PBS, Questar and International Video Network
 - f. Network discounts on library and office supplies.
2. Action for Libraries, a newsletter published monthly and reports news about BCR and member libraries, workshops, new products and services.
3. The Third Indicator, a bimonthly technical bulletin for OCLC libraries.
4. A wide variety of library consulting expertise.
5. Access to and technical support for SilverPlatter, Dialog, OCLC, the Internet and the World Wide Web. The Wired-MT listserv now runs at BCR.

Contact: BCR web site <http://www.bcr.org>, [800]397-1552, fax (303) 751-9786, 14394 East Evans Avenue, Aurora, Colorado 80014-1478. Or MSL: Darlene Staffeldt, 406-444-5381, dstaffeldt@state.mt.us, or Bruce Newell, bnewell@state.mt.us, 406-444-9816.

A Word From Our State Librarian

What a great conference at Big Sky! I haven't heard a discouragin' word about any aspect of the event – not even complaints about the food. Everyone involved with conference planning deserves a loud “thank-you”, especially the Bozeman crew who handled the myriad important details with grace and charm.

Some of you know that the Western Council of State Librarians met in Big Sky before the conference. Many State Librarians stayed for the conference and were effusive in their praise. These compliments mean much coming from folks who have attended many. One of my peers said “you guys (Montanans) sure have a lot of fun.” Yes, indeed.

My conference highlights lists include hearing Terry Tempest Williams eloquently praise our profession by sharing her personal connections with librarians and libraries. I found her words to be inspiring and moving. Another personal highlight was the opportunity to present a well-deserved award to Darlene Staffeldt, the Sheila Cates Librarian of the Year, and the special services award to Lois Fitzpatrick for her past work leading MLA's legislative charge. It was also a pleasure to moderate the panel with other state librarians who shared their state's successes and plans for libraries.

Again, thanks to all who made this conference a resounding success.

Back in Helena, we're finishing some projects and starting new ones. Libraries have signed up for the magazine database project in droves. As you may know, the legislature required us to offer libraries money instead of joining the database project. Only three libraries have requested money. We are writing draft administrative rules to implement the new public library standards and the new law regarding federation membership. Look for these drafts soon; we need your comments. The Library part of MSL is undergoing a reorganization. First on this agenda is a focus group that will help us shape a preferred future statement for this important state resource. The Montana Library Network plan is drafted and ready for your comments. NRIS continues to develop its web capability to provide fast, desktop access to mapping systems. We welcome Ted Chase as our new GIS coordinator and Suzanne Reymer as the new statewide technology librarian based in Billings.

Whew! It is a busy summer. I am glad that I heard Terry Tempest Williams – the memory of her words reminds me why we are so busy.



Karen's Schedule:

August 12-15

PNLA, Calgary

August 18

Commission Meeting,
Sheridan

September 24-25

Workshops - Lewistown

Sept 30-October 1

Academic & Special
Libraries Retreat, Chico

Directory Changes

Page 18: Garfield

County Library new di-
rector, Clara Smith

Page 19: Lincoln County

Public Library, new di-
rector, Marlene A.

Palmquist, e-mail: mar-
palm@libby.org

Page 68: Salish

Kootenai College Library,
new director: Carlene
Barnett

MSL's Fall Workshop

It's time to officially register for MSL's fall workshop in Lewistown, on September 24-25 [limit of 80 people. A **registration form and details on sessions, presenters and accommodations are included as an insert in this issue of Big Sky Libraries.**

Strege Appointed to SummitNet Executive Council

Governor Racicot appointed State Librarian Karen Strege to the SummitNet Executive Council on July 1, 1999. The council provides policy level direction for matters related to SummitNet. SummitNet greatly increases access to telecommunications facilities for the connection of Montana's schools, libraries, universities, tribal colleges and government agencies [state and local]. Its primary mission is to provide a standardized networking environment for the State of Montana.

MSL Materials

Here are a few professional development and general reference materials available through interlibrary loan:

The Columbia Guide to Online Style. Janice R. Walker and Todd Taylor.

1998. Call # R 808.027 WALKER – There are variations on the punctuation and style of bibliographic citations, but the core information of author, title, and publisher remains consistent even in electronic form. This book provides a clear, consistent style to cite information obtained from web sites, gophers, discussion lists, databases, CD-ROMs and other forms of online data. It has information on how to create documents for online publication.

Collecting and Using Public Library Statistics by Mark Smith, 1995 – “If your numbers are not interesting, you’re using the wrong numbers” (paraphrased from Edward Tufte, Yale statistician). Extolling the benefits of library statistics, this work explains how and why statistics can help you promote and support your library. It discusses the different types of statistics: staff, salary, circulation, expenditures, financial, and service. It provides simple forms and basic statistical concepts. Also, Smith illustrates how to effectively use charts, graphs and tables to present the statistics you’ve gathered.

Leverage for Dollars: Fundraising for Libraries. 1999. Video (120 min.) and packet – This teleconference, produced by the Idaho State Library in January, provides basic information on funding sources available to public libraries including public funding, foundations, and grant money. The foundations segment is presented by Bette Ammon and Abe Abramson and discusses the Missoula Public Library Foundation.

Contact 1-800-338-5087 or email mmmeredith@state.mt.us



Lois Fitzpatrick, Abe Abramson, Mary Doggett, Senator Burns, Karen Strege and David Johnson

Montana Libraries Represented in Washington

Karen Strege, State Librarian, Commissioners

David Johnson and Mary Doggett, MLA government affairs committee chair, Lois Fitzpatrick, and NCLIS member, Abe Abramson, represented Montana's libraries at the National Library Legislative Day in Washington, D.C. in May. The five met with Montana's congressional staffs to urge continued funding of the Library Services and Technology Act and the E-Rate Program. They also discussed possible federal requirements for Internet filtering and copyright legislation.

MSL at MLA

The Montana State Library hosted the spring meeting of the Western Council of State Libraries at Big Sky. Many state



Folks gathering at the MSL booth

librarians stayed to attend the joint MLA/MPLA conference and participate in a State Librarian's Update program. Margaret Beer, from the Heritage program at MSL, presented a conference program on finding information on the web about Montana's unique fauna and flora. MSL also sponsored a booth in the exhibit area featuring photographs of all MSL staff and drawings for books and a free issue of LaserCat.



Darlene Staffeldt with her Sheila Cates Librarian of the year plaque.

Darlene Staffeldt, director of MSL's Statewide Library Resources Program, was honored as Sheila Cates Librarian of the Year at the conference. Darlene was lauded for her leadership and caring for all types of libraries in Montana.

Library Certification Program

The importance of the *Montana Library Certification Program*, established to certify librarians, library staff and trustees, cannot be overestimated. There are few opportunities offered to librarians and staff members to be recognized for "going the extra mile" to keep up with the field of librarianship. The certification process provides the means to improve the skills of librarians, staff members and trustees. Library boards can require and recognize such efforts on the part of their staff members.

The *Montana Library Certification Program* will assist in providing for increased direction and uniformity in continuing education programs across the state and in identifying and recruiting qualified librarians.

Congratulations to the library directors and staff members who were certified for the first time and those who re-certified through the *Montana Library Certification Program*:

Certified first time	
Honore Bray, Anaconda	Shawna Mesenbrink, Superior
Sheryl Chapman, Cut Bank	RoxAnne Schlosser, Belgrade
Jo Frankforter, Hamilton	
Barbara Fredrickson, Dillon	Re-certified
Jamie Greco, Cut Bank	Terri Dood, Bozeman
Christien Hadlow, Hamilton	Joanne Erdall, Virginia City
Debra Karmer, Stanford	Cynthia Kreizwald, Boulder
Jeanne Linn, Libby	Duane Sheble, Valier
Alice Meister, Bozeman	Raylene Stark, Valier
	Diane Stuver, Broadus

The revised *Montana Library Certification Program Manual* should be mailed out in August, 1999. Contact Diane Gunderson 1-800-338-5087 or e-mail Dgunderson@state.mt.us.

ILL Reminder

ILL system changes: As of July 1 (FY 2000), MSL will reimburse Montana libraries annually for their loans to other Montana libraries. It is a transition year and libraries will not receive a reimbursement for loans made in this year until the beginning of FY 2001. Libraries can request MSL to send a one-time advance on their FY 2000 reimbursement. Please send your request to Kris Schmitz at MSL, PO Box 201800, Helena, MT 59620-1800, **before August 30, 1999.**

Looking Ahead - MLN in Year 2002

Imagine how the Montana Library Network [MLN] may change how Montana libraries 'do business' in the future. This essay is paraphrased from the draft Montana Library Network 1999-2000 Plan. [Available at <http://msl.state.mt.us/mln>. Comments are solicited.]

In 2002, MLN is fully operational. We continue to be mindful of the need for library networks to balance access, content and training. Montana library patrons can search all Montana's networked library resources at once from any Internet access point. Our strategy:

- A continued sense of fair-play and neighborliness between Montana libraries
- Libraries and patrons having Internet access
- Montana libraries sharing a bibliographic services vendor (OCLC)
- Libraries and patrons using proven, industry-standard, off-the-shelf software
- Libraries running standards-based local and networked library automation systems
- A special Montana-based web server

For example, a search for *grizzly bears* AND *Yellowstone National Park* returns dozens of book titles, technical reports, videotapes, government documents, sound recordings, web sites, maps, and magazine articles. They were found on several Montana libraries' local systems, web sites; and subscription databases, including OCLC's.

Resources found online by patrons can be download or interacted with. Other items are available quickly through a new 'svelte' interlibrary loan (ILL) process that is nearly paperless, patron-initiated, librarian overseen, and easy-to-use. Most Montana libraries now rely upon OCLC's ILL functions via a special Montana-based web interface. As interlibrary sharing activity increases, the per-item cost of ILL plummets for lending and borrowing libraries.

The resource sharing region expanded from the Pacific Northwest to include several other states, Canada, and the world. Most Montana libraries, as full OCLC members, enjoy access to OCLC's suite of cataloging, resource sharing, and reference tools and routinely add their holdings to OCLC's WorldCat database.

MLN has become a convenient, powerful, 'one-stop-shop' for Montana libraries, ensuring the delivery of quality networked library materials.

Contact: Bruce Newell, 406-444-9816, Bnewell@state.mt.us.

Notes From MSL

New task force and advisory council members appointed:

Law Revision

- Colet Bartow, Manhattan Public Schools, representing school libraries, replaced Peggy Kimmet;
- Niki Whearty from Helena High School, Representing MLA Government Affairs Committee, replaced Lois Fitzpatrick;
- Bette Ammon, Missoula Public Library, representing large public libraries, replaced Bill Cochran;
- Milla Cummins, Livingston-Park County Public Library, representing medium sized libraries, replaced Janice Bradley;
- Paul Hull, Glendive, representing library trustees, replaced JoAlice Juedeman;
- Elizabeth Kearney, West Yellowstone Public Library, representing small public libraries, replaced Sheila Lee.

Networking Task Force

- Linda Plick, Missoula Public Library, Representing library trustees, which is a new seat on the task force;
- Kathy Mora, Great Falls Public Library, representing large public libraries replaced Bruce Newell;
- Diane Van Gorden, the Baker High School, representing school libraries, replaced Al Randell.

Advisory Council

The Governor re-appointed all of the Montana Library Services Advisory Council for another two year term except that:

- Cheryl Hesser, the Rosebud County Library, appointed as the public library representative, replaced Delores Drennen;
- Myrle Tomkins of Helena, replaced Duran Duboise as non-traditional library service users representative.

Thanks to the outgoing folks for their hard work and welcome aboard to the new ones!

New Library and Information Services Policies: MSL's Library and Information Services Department is revising its Collection Development and Information Services Policies. Each describes

in more detail patron populations, services, and collection priorities for MSL's information services department. A draft has been posted on the Internet [<http://msl.state.mt.us/slr/CandIPolicies.html>] for your review and will be considered by the Commission at its August meeting. Contact Suzy Holt, 444-5374, email sholt@state.mt.us.

Magazine Database License Project Update: Participation in the upcoming Statewide Gale Database purchase is a great success. Twenty-one academic libraries, 16 special libraries, 68 public libraries, 161 school districts and 4 private schools have agreed to participate. Only three libraries have asked for money instead of participation.

Because of the outstanding response, MSL can improve the suite of databases offered by adding more databases and/or upgrading existing ones. More information will follow as the project nears its start date of September 1, 1999.

MSL has arranged for database training during the weeks of September 13th and 20th. We hope that the chosen sites will allow for maximum attendance by participating libraries. Sites are Glendive, Billings, Helena, Great Falls, Missoula, Kalispell and Havre. Watch your mail and Wired-MT for updates on the training and the database products. Contact: John Finn, 888-502-0012.

New GIS Coordinator Arrives: Ted Chase joined the NRIS staff June 24, 1999 as the GIS Coordinator. Ted comes from Denver, CO where he worked for 10 years as a GIS Manager for QC Data Inc. At QC Data, Ted supervised up to 120 GIS programmers and technicians working in the U.S. and Canada on a wide range of projects. Ted's duties at NRIS include GIS project management, and coordinating with state and federal agencies that generate and use GIS natural resource information.



Ted Chase, GIS Coordinator

New Networking Librarian Arrives in Billings: Suzanne Reymer, a graduate of the University of Washington's Library and Information Studies Department, has been hired as the statewide technology librarian. Suzanne will assist the librarians in the South Central and Sagebrush Federation. Suzanne's office is at the Parmly-Billing Library, call toll free 1-888-826-0837



Big Sky Libraries is a publication of
the Montana State Library

Karen Strege, State Librarian
406-444-3115 — TDD: 406-444-3005
Redi Ref: 800-338-5087 — Fax: 406-444-5612
Home Page: <http://msl.state.mt.us>
Agency E-Mail: msl@state.mt.us

The Montana State Library does not discriminate
on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex,
age or disability in employment or the provision of
services. This publication is available in alternative
formats upon request.

Please send articles and other information to be
included in this newsletter to: Tristen Shinnick,
Editor

MONTANA STATE LIBRARY
PO BOX 201800
HELENA MT 59620-1800
E-mail: Tshinnic@state.mt.us

Spotlight: Dixie Carlson, Interlibrary Loan Technician

Originally hired as Technical Services Clerk for the Montana State Library on January 15, 1979, Dixie Carlson has since worked in several positions, such as State Publications Technician, Talking Book Readers Advisor, Circulation Clerk, and her current position as Interlibrary Loans Technician. Dixie helped with our big move into the new building in 1981. Among the issues and or projects that she has received the thank you letters and accommodations for are: keying of the Moncat Manual; preparation of shipping list standards for the state publications program; shifting of federal publications; barcoding and shifting of state publications; and interlibrary loan training. Dixie received the Award of Excellence from the Governor. She has worked with six different Supervisors and seven different State Librarians.

In her current position, Dixie receives requests from state and federal employees, as well as from public, school, college, university and out of state libraries. These requests come over the fax, online from OCLC, "snail" mail, and via Internet mail for our materials. She prepares the requests for the

shelver to pull. Dixie also orders books or periodical articles for state and federal patrons on OCLC. Dixie willingly performs other tasks, such as providing back up for the circulation clerk or shelver, whenever help is needed.

An extraordinary poet, Dixie has composed and presented numerous "Good bye" poems for resigning staff members, a treat appreciated by many.

Dixie has been married to her husband Jack for 41 years. They have four wonderful children, twelve precious grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Dixie says "I love my job, the wonderful people I work with and all the people I come in contact with out in library land."



Dixie Carlson, Interlibrary
Loan Technician, and Jack, her
husband of 41 years.